

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of the Barrio Logan Historical Resources Survey, the following recommendations have been proposed for the treatment and preservation of the community's historical resources.

- **Conduct additional research on buildings receiving a 5S3 status code.**

These buildings were identified as potentially significant because they may exemplify or reflect special elements of the community or neighborhood's historical, cultural, social, economic, political, aesthetic, engineering, landscaping, or architectural development (City of San Diego Criteria A) or because they embody distinctive characteristics of a style, type, period or method of construction (City of San Diego Criteria C). Additional research would provide the information necessary to evaluate whether they are eligible for listing in the City of San Diego Register.

- **Identify additional buildings that may have been missed during the survey.**

The Barrio Logan survey only included buildings visible from the street and did not attempt to record structures on the rear of properties or along alleys. As the historic context indicates, there are potentially a considerable number of buildings older than 1965 that were constructed behind older residences that were not covered by the current survey. The study of these obscured or inaccessible structures could provide a more complete understanding of Barrio Logan's development history.

- **Commission a Mexican American Cultural Landscape and Oral History Study**

Most historic resources surveys, including the current one, identify architecturally significant or important historic districts. Yet in a community that has a strong cultural history such as that of the predominantly Mexican American community of Barrio Logan, the group's impacts to the landscape are more complex than a list of individual buildings or districts. The Mexican American's contribution to the "sense of place" in Barrio Logan should be considered a historic vernacular landscape, worthy of study and preservation measures. The characteristics of this landscape may not be immediately evident to an untrained surveyor or may have not been previously recognized as a significant manifestation of the Mexican American culture on the landscape, although some preliminary observations have been introduced in the historic context (Section 4.0). A preservation initiative such as a cultural landscape study should contain an oral history element to learn of the properties important to the community for their cultural value and elements of the landscape that had historic significance to the Mexican American community in particular.

There has been no systematic effort in the United States to identify the cultural landscapes that mark the contributions of Mexican Americans to the nation's development as has been done with African Americans, women, and labor history (Alanen and Melnick 2000). The National Park Service has published some guidance for the preservation of cultural landscapes in *Preservation Brief 36: Protecting Cultural Landscapes, Planning, Treatment and Management of Historic Landscapes* and the more complete *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. Nevertheless, the guidelines emphasize primarily historic designed

landscapes (such as parks and estates) or historic sites (such as battlefields and president's house properties) and not historic vernacular landscapes such as the one in Barrio Logan. Efforts in mainly Asian American and African American historic communities may be more useful as examples.

Key to a successful preservation will be choosing the type of preservation action that should be applied to the landscape. The most ideal approach to protecting the Barrio Logan cultural landscape will likely be a combination of preservation and rehabilitation. Of the many Mexican American contributions to Barrio Logan, murals and shrines are likely to be the ones best treated by preservation. Rehabilitation is the approach that will likely be best applied to other elements of the landscape such as enclosed and personalized front-yards and the use of color to fill blank walls. In the case of enclosure, for instance, rehabilitation would likely have less emphasis on the actual historic fabric itself (such as the age of the fencing material) than on the concept of enclosure itself. The same may be true of the use of bright colors, advertising, and graffiti. Those elements would remain but would be free to evolve over time.

- **Conduct project-specific Native American consultation**

BFSa consulted with Mr. Clint Linton of the Santa Ysabel Reservation to form the following recommendations concerning cultural resources within Barrio Logan to express the Native American concerns regarding this area and the potential to encounter culturally sensitive sites or artifacts. Mr. Linton also submitted a brief letter stating his agreement (**Appendix A**).

For future undertakings within Barrio Logan the City should consult, or mandate applicant consultation, with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) early in the project planning, design and environmental compliance process by notifying the NAHC and concerned Native American parties of the following:

- a. The exact location of the undertaking.
- b. The nature and extent of the proposed project (i.e., road widening, parcel development, and its proposed impact on the environment.
- c. Results obtained from the cultural resources inventory, including descriptions of, and National Register eligibility determinations for, sites affiliated with Native American occupation or use.
- d. The potential of the project to impact significant sites and/or those localities of cultural or religious significance.
- e. As early in the project planning and development process as possible, the lead agency should acknowledge the presence of specific sites or areas deemed by as Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) and/or Sacred Sites.
- f. As required by city ordinance, it is recommended that sensitive information provided by the NAHC or concerned parties be protected and not released in a public forum without the express written consent of the NAHC or its representative.

Treatment

Projects that may impact cultural resources should allow concerned Native American parties an opportunity to comment on or participate in any treatment plan for any sites with cultural and religious significance to the Native American community, as follows:

- a. It is recommended that wherever feasible, the cultural resource should be avoided by the proposed activity and preserved.
- b. Where avoidance is not a feasible alternative and this determination has been documented accordingly, treatment should be carried out in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation, coupled with guidelines established by CEQA and local ordinances.
- c. It is recommended that a Native American monitor be present for all phases of archaeological investigations or construction activities that may affect significant cultural resources within the plan area.

Native American Graves

In the event that Native American burials are anticipated or inadvertently discovered during controlled archaeological excavations or any phase of construction, it is recommended that the concerned parties shall seek to avoid direct and indirect impacts to the site(s) as the primary mitigation alternative.

Treatment of sites containing human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony should proceed according to applicable laws and in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA; 43 CFR 10), as appropriate, and any agency-specific rules and procedures for handling such matters. In addition, if human remains are uncovered, it is recommended that no further disturbance of the site shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary finds as to origin and disposition of the remains. It is recommended that the following actions be taken directly upon discovery of human remains:

- a. All work in the area of the discovered human remains shall stop immediately and the County Coroner shall be contacted.
- b. The coroner has two working days to examine human remains after being notified by the responsible person. If the remains are Native American, the Coroner has 24 hours to notify the NAHC.
- c. The NAHC will immediately notify the person it believes to be the MLD of the deceased Native American.
- d. The MLD has 48 hours to make recommendations to the owner or representative, for treatment or disposition, with proper dignity, of the human remains and grave goods.
- e. If the owner does not accept the descendant's recommendations, the MLD may request mediation by the NAHC.